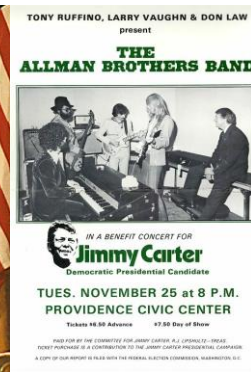




*The Carter*  
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

# What's the Secret?



***presented by* Joshua Montanari, Education Specialist**

NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

# What's the Secret?

To find the secret to an extraordinary life, we will discuss President Carter's:

- **Early Life**
- **Adult Life**
- **Political Life**
- **Post-Presidency**

**Right:** President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter wave to supporters and others attending an Inaugural Ball, 1/20/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [173391](#))



# Early Life

## Lillian Carter

- Gave birth to Jimmy while volunteering as a Nurse at a hospital (**1<sup>st</sup> President born in a hospital, 1924**)
- She ignored rules of racial segregation
- Joined the Peace Corps in India at age 68
- Jimmy's BIGGEST fan

**Right:** Lillian Carter on the family farm with daughter Ruth, and son Jimmy, Archery, Georgia (Carter Library)

**Far Right:** Lillian Carter celebrates her son Jimmy's victory in the 1976 Presidential Election (Carter Library)





# Early Life



## Extraordinary Home

- Home construction kit ordered from Sears
- No running water or electricity until Jimmy was a teenager

**What parts of your daily life depend on the availability of electricity and running water?**

**Left:** Jimmy Carter's Boyhood Home in Archer, Georgia (National Park Service)



## Early Life

## Extraordinary Work at Home and School

- Awoke “an hour before daylight” for farm chores
- Consistently earned “A’s” in most school subjects



REPORT OF																
	<i>Carter Jimmy</i>															
MONTHS	1	2	3	4	Ex	A <sub>v</sub>	5	6	7	8	9	Ex	A <sub>v</sub>	Y	a <sub>v</sub>	
DAYS PRESENT.	20	20	20			80	20	20	20	20			80	160		
TIMES TARDY.	1	0	0	0		1			1	1			2	3		
CONDUCT	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a		
SPELLING	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a		
READING	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a		
WRITING	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a		
ARITHMETIC	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a		
GRAMMAR	B	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a		
LANGUAGE																
GEOGRAPHY	a	a	a	a		a								a		
HISTORY							a	a	a	a				a		
HEALTH	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a		
DRAWING																
*MUSIC	a	a	a	a		a	c	b	a	c			B	a		
AGRICULTURE																
Total			2x	2x	2x			2x	2x	2x	2x		2x	2x		

Parents please examine, sign and return.

1 J.E. Carter  
 3 H.C. Carter  
 5 G.L. Carter  
 7 J.B. Carter

2 B.A. Carter  
 4 F.D. Carter  
 6 W.P. Carter  
 8 J.H. Carter

9 \_\_\_\_\_



# Adult Life

## Extraordinary Military Service

- Studies reactor technology and nuclear physics in submarine school after graduating from U.S. Naval Academy
- Assisted in the design and development of nuclear propulsion plants for naval vessels, commanded *Seawolf* submarine
- Led first nuclear meltdown response team in history at Chalk River Laboratories in Ontario, Canada, 1952

**Right:** Lieutenant James Earl “Jimmy” Carter in main control room of USS K-1 ([Naval History and Heritage Command](#))



# Adult Life

## Extraordinary Change

- Overturns fraudulent election defeat for Georgia State Senator
- Wins Georgia governor's race on second attempt

***"I say to you quite frankly,  
that the time for racial  
discrimination is over."***

**Right:** Campaign poster for one of Jimmy Carter's successful runs for the Georgia State Senate. (Carter Library)

**Far Right:** Jimmy Carter shaking hands with voters while running for Georgia governor (Carter Library)



# Political Life

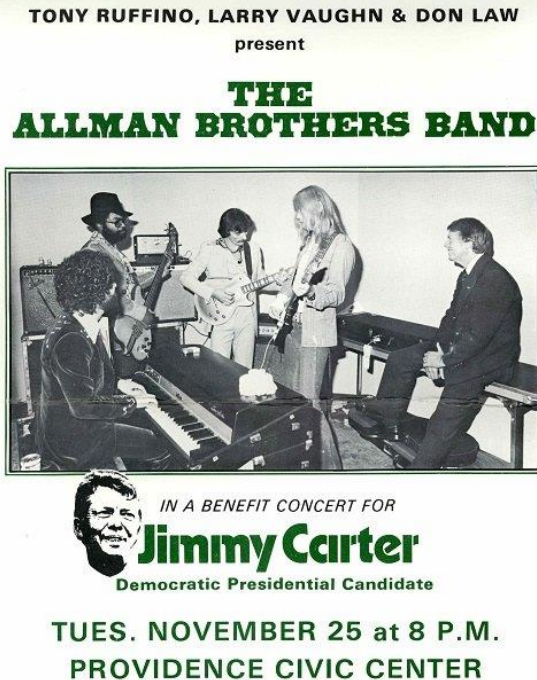
## Extraordinary Supporters

- As Governor of Georgia, Carter worked to strengthen copyright laws for recording artists
- Endorsed by Allman Brothers, Willie Nelson, and other popular artists in both presidential campaigns

**Right:** Poster for The Allman Brothers Band in a Benefit Concert for Jimmy Carter (National Archives Identifier: [134408762](#))

**Top Right:** Jimmy Carter sings onstage with Willie Nelson at a White House concert (Carter Library)

**Bottom Right:** Jimmy Carter looks on as Muddy Waters performs at a White House event (Carter Library)



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TICKET PURCHASE IS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE JIMMY CARTER PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.  
A COPY OF OUR REPORT IS FILED WITH THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, D.C.





# Political Life

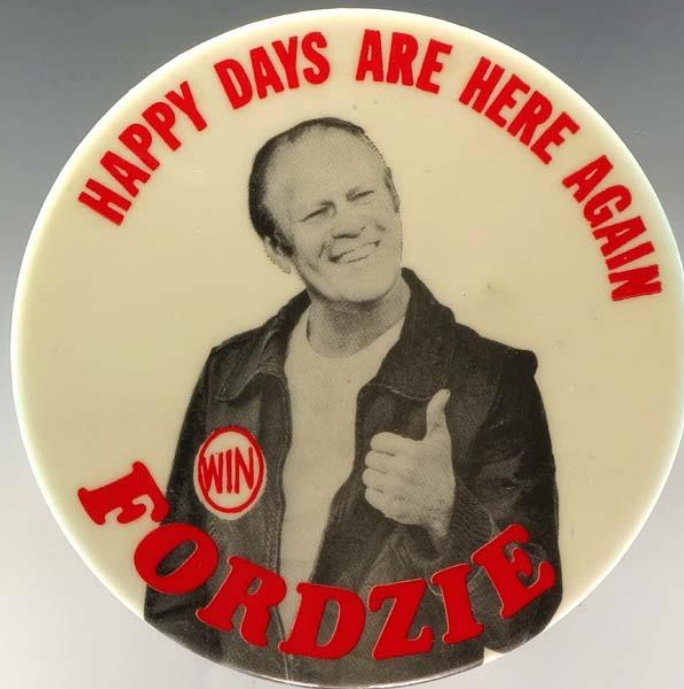
## Extraordinary Election of 1976

- Gerald Ford was an **incumbent running for election, NOT re-election**
- Appointed Vice-President following resignation of Nixon's VP Agnew
- Becomes President when Nixon resigns

### Further Inquiry:

- [National Archives blog on 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment](#)
- [Jimmy Carter Remembers Gerald Ford](#)

**Right:** White Campaign Button With Image of President Gerald R. Ford as the Fonz Wearing a WIN Button (National Archives Identifier: [28360684](#))



# Political Life

## Extraordinary Communication

- Builds upon work of Nixon, Ford administrations
- Establishes Diplomatic Relations with China, “most significant accomplishment” of his presidency

### Further Inquiry:

[China Policy, 1977-1980](#)

**Right:** Deng Xiaoping and Jimmy Carter meeting in Washington following the normalization of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and China, 1/29/1979 (National Archives Identifier: [183165](#))



# Political Life



## Extraordinary Determination

Carter administration faced several crises in four years:

- [Energy Crisis](#)
- [Environmental Crisis](#)
- [Cold War/Middle East Peace](#)
- [Hostage Crisis in Iran](#)

**Far Left:** Sweater worn by President Carter during his fireside chat, 2/2/1977 (Carter Library)

**Left:** “The Battle of the Energy Drainers!” comic book created by Marvel in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy (Carter Library)



# Political Life



## Extraordinary Conservation

- Uses Executive action to work with Congress to pass Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act ([ANILCA](#))
- Protects more than 100 million acres of land
- Creates 34 new national parks, forests, monuments & wildlife refuges

**Left:** Denali, the highest peak in North America, Denali National Park & Preserve, Alaska, 2016 (Joshua Montanari)

# Political Life



## Extraordinary Determination

- Personally keeps peace talks from collapsing
- Ends four decades of war between Israel & Egypt
- Sadat and Begin are awarded Nobel Peace Prize, both feel Carter should have won it

**Left:** Jimmy Carter and Menachem Begin with members of the Israeli delegation at Camp David, 09/17/1978 (National Archives Identifier: [181417](#))

# Political Life

President  
Carter speaks  
about  
Menachem  
Begin and the  
Camp David  
Accords, LBJ  
Foundation  
Civil Rights  
Summit,  
04/09/2014  
([LBJ  
Foundation](#))





# Political Life

## Extraordinary Commitment

- Following Iranian Revolution, 52 Americans taken hostage, held for 444 days
- Carter committed to peaceful resolution
- Works until last minutes of presidency to free every hostage unharmed

**Left:** American hostages freed from Iran celebrate their arrival at Rhein-Main U.S. Air Force Base in Frankfurt, West Germany, 1/21/1981 (Carter Library)



# Political Life



## Extraordinary First Lady

- Champion of [Mental Health](#) Awareness since serving as First Lady of Georgia
- Regularly attended Cabinet Meetings, met with world leaders on behalf of President
- Active supporter of the [Equal Rights Amendment](#)

**Left:** First Lady Rosalynn Carter at the President's Commission on Mental Health, Chicago, Illinois, 1977 (National Archives Identifier: [5730827](#))



# Post-Presidency



## Extraordinary Concern

- Finds non-profit Carter Center with Rosalynn
- Dedicated to waging peace, fighting disease, building hope
- Health and Human Rights programs in 80 countries

**Left:** Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter comforts six-year-old Ruhama Issah at Savelugu Hospital as Adams Bawa, a Carter Center technical assistant dresses her Guinea worm wound, 2/8/2007 (Carter Center/Louise Gubb)



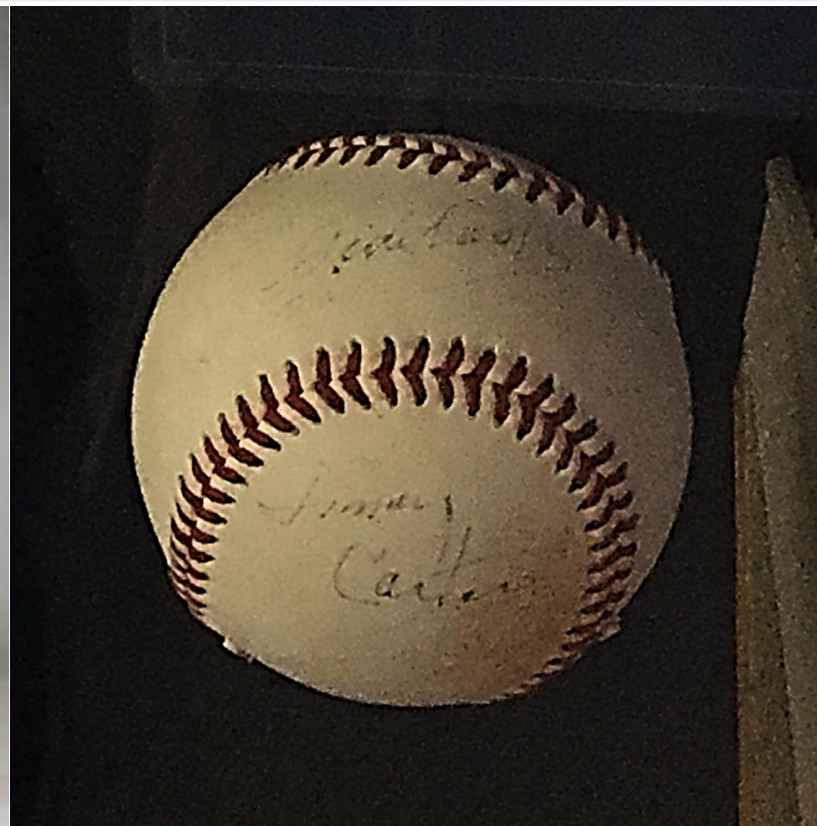
# Post-Presidency

## Extraordinary Leadership

In 2002, Carter travels to [Cuba](#) to meet with Fidel Castro to discuss human rights, foreign relations

- Attends Cuban All-Star Game and throws out first pitch ([Carter chose Hank Aaron's #44 for jersey](#))

**Pieces of History:** [Fidel Castro's Childhood Plea to President Franklin Roosevelt](#)



**Right:** Personalized Cuban baseball jersey gifted to President Carter (Carter Library)

**Far Right:** Baseball signed by Fidel Castro and Jimmy Carter (Carter Library)

# Post-Presidency

## Extraordinary Redemption

- “A’s” in every subject except Music
- Awarded Grammy for “Best Spoken Word Album” three times (also won by Presidents Clinton, Obama)

**Right:** Jimmy Carter’s Sixth Grade Report Card (Carter Library)

**Far Right:** One of three Grammys awarded to Jimmy Carter for “Best Spoken Word Album” (Carter Library)

REPORT OF

*Carter, Jimmy*

MONTHS	1	2	3	4	Ex	Av	5	6	7	8	9	Ex	Av	Y	av
DAYS PRESENT	20	20	21	20		80	20	20	20	20			80	16	0
TIMES TARDY	1	0	0	0		1	1	1	1				2	3	
CONDUCT	A	A	A	A		A	A	A	A				A	A	
SPELLING	A	A	A	A		A	A	A	A				A	A	
READING	A	A	A	A		A	A	A	A				A	A	
WRITING	A	A	A	A		A	A	A	A				A	A	
ARITHMETIC	A	A	A	A		A	A	A	A				A	A	
GRAMMAR	B	A	A	A		A	A	A	A				A	A	
LANGUAGE															
GEOGRAPHY	A	A	A	A		A							A	A	
HISTORY	A	A	A	A		A							A	A	
HEALTH	A	A	A	A		A							A	A	
DRAWING	A	A	A	A		A							A	A	
MUSIC	A	A	A	A		A	C	B	A	C			B	A	
AGRICULTURE															

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 3 *J. E. Carter* 4 *J. E. Carter*  
 5 *J. E. Carter* 6 *J. E. Carter*  
 7 *J. E. Carter* 8 *J. E. Carter*  
 9



# Post-Presidency



## Extraordinary Endurance

- Defeats brain cancer at 92
- Longest-living President in U.S. History
- Longest married Presidential couple

**Far Left:** Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter on their wedding day, 7/7/1946 (Carter Library)

**Left:** Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter celebrate their 71<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary, 10/1/2017 (Habitat for Humanity)



# Jimmy's Answer

## Extraordinary Faith and Public Service

*"I have one life and one chance to make it count for something...My faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference."*

**- Jimmy Carter -**

**Right:** Jimmy Carter greets residents of South Bronx, New York, 10/5/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [176402](#))





# Further Inquiry

## Online Student and Educator Resources

[About the Carters](#)

[Frequently Requested Carter Research Topics](#)

[Museum Virtual Tour](#)

[Carter Library Teacher Resources](#)

[Carter Library Professional Development](#)

[The Carter Center Teacher Resource Center](#)

[National Archives Educator Resources](#)

[DocsTeach](#)



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**Left:** Jimmy Carter being Presented with a Birthday Cake  
by the United Auto Workers (UAW) Local #900 in Detroit,  
Michigan, 10/1/1980 (National Archives Identifier: [6783223](#))

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